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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/059,428	01/29/2002	Andy Catalin Negoi	PHCH010005	5576

7590 01/24/2003

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EXAMINER

TRA, ANH QUAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 01/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/059,428	NEGOI, ANDY CATALIN
	Examiner Quan Tra	Art Unit 2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,2 and 8-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 3-7 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>4 and 7</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 8 are objected because there is no antecedent basis for the limitation "the supply voltage". The word "serie" should be --series--.

Claims 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: at the end of a clause, a semicolon (;) should be inserted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Buchschacher et al. (USP 6052295).

As to claim 1, Buchschacher et al. discloses in figure 2 a charge pump device containing at least two stage (S1-S4), whereby a stage (S1) comprises a switch (Sw1) and a charge device (C1) which are arranged to generate a voltage higher than the supply voltage (Ui), whereby the stages (S1-S4) are arranged in series and a required multiplication factor of the charge pump is adjustable (by circuits (CNTRLG, SL, MN) in figure 1) by activating/deactivating a definable number of stages, whereby the switches (S1-S4) of each stage are arranged in the same way (abstract).

As to claim 2, it is inherent for a multiplication factor (MF) smaller than the maximal possible multiplication factor (Mfmax) the stages (S1-S4) beginning from an input (IP) of the charge pump device will be activated.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Messager (USP 6346903) in view of Buchschacher et al. (USP 6052295).

Messager's figure 1 shows a display module (circuit figure 1) having a display driver (CC) for providing display information and voltages to a display unit (LCD DISPLAY) with a charge pump device (CHARGE PUMP). Thus, Messager's figure 1 shows all limitations of the claim except for the detail of the charge pump circuit. However, Buchschacher et al.'s figure 1

shows a charge pump circuit comprising at least two stage (S1-S4), whereby a stage (S1) comprises a switch (Sw1) and a charge device (C1) which are arranged to generate a voltage higher than the supply voltage (Ui), whereby the stages (S1-S4) are arranged in series and a required multiplication factor of the charge pump is adjustable (by circuits (CNTRLG, SL, MN) in figure 1) by activating/deactivating a definable number of stages, whereby the switches (S1-S4) of each stage are arranged in the same way (abstract). Buchschacher et al.'s figure 1 having the advantage of providing a stable charge pump voltage. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ Buchschacher et al.'s teaching to realize Message's charge pump circuit for the purpose of providing a stable charge pump voltage.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 3-7 are objected because the prior art fails to teach a circuit (such as figure 3) having a switch control unit (GSU) arranged to control the gate of switch MP1.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. These references are cited as interest because they show some circuits analogous to the claimed invention.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quan Tra whose telephone number is 703-308-6174. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 703-308-4876. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9318 for regular communications and 703-872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

QT
January 14, 2003


Terry D. Cunningham
Primary Examiner